

CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

5TH DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

April 1, 2009

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WHITMAN

The Honorable David Obey
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-218, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jerry Lewis
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
H-218, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Lewis,

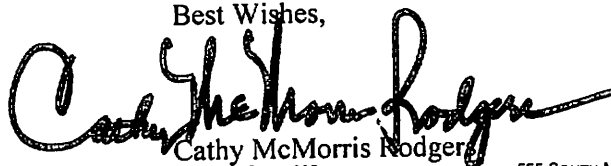
I am requesting funding for the Regional Disease Surveillance and Early Event Detection (ReDSEED) project in the FY10 Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$810,000.00. The entity to receive funding for this project is Inland Northwest Health Services (INHS), located at 601 W. First Avenue, Spokane, WA 99201.

This project will utilize anonymous health data to capture all inpatient and emergency room data, all laboratory and imaging data and a significant percentage of ambulatory data for an entire region. Special pattern recognition software will be applied to the data allowing rapid detection of patterns that may indicate a need for public health and emergency response action. Because public health authorities are seeking methods for detecting disease as early as possible, this project has the potential to transform disease surveillance in this country. This can be accomplished by analyzing data from a wide variety of sources and enable the user to see patterns and relationships that otherwise would be missed.

I hereby certify that this request will be made publicly available on my Official Website as required by Chairman Obey's new Committee policy that only posted requests will be considered. I also attest that this project does not have a direct or foreseeable effect on the financial interests of me or my spouse.

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Best Wishes,



Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress

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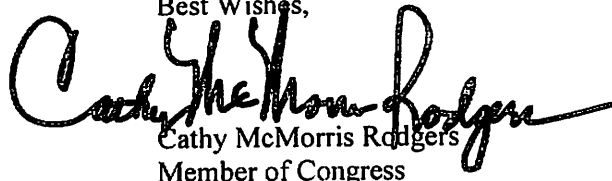
I am requesting funding for the Better Management of Chronic Health Conditions project in the FY10 Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$1,000,000.00. The entity to receive funding for this project is Inland Northwest Health Services, located at 601 W. First Avenue, Spokane, WA 99201.

Inland Northwest Health Services will use this funding to implement a pilot project that will apply the Center for Occupational Health and Education (COHE) model to asthma and diabetes to 2,000 enrollees in the Medicare and Medicaid populations. The COHE model has been highly successful at reducing the costs and improving the health outcomes for injured workers. When applied to this population, it will improve the chronic disease management process and decrease associated costs for diabetes patients that result in decreased incidents of complications, increased quality of life and sustained self management of the disease.

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Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Lewis,

I am requesting funding for the Protecting Critical Care Infrastructure project in the FY10 Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$2,000,000.00. The entity to receive funding for this project is Inland Northwest Health Services, located at 601 W. First Avenue, Spokane, WA 99201.

The purpose of the project is to enhance the medical records disaster recovery center to allow for much more rapid changeover in the event of a system failure or disaster affecting the main facility. By improving the restoration capability of the INHS hospital information system, the region's many critical access hospitals, larger trauma facilities, physicians, and clinicians will be able to utilize the system even during a major emergency.

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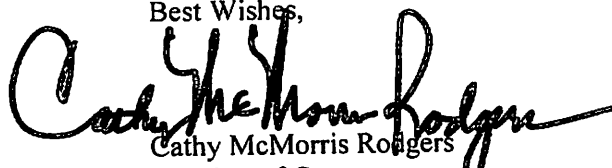
I am requesting funding for the Image Guided Radiation Therapy Cancer Treatment Equipment project in the FY10 Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$1,000,000.00. The entity to receive funding for this project is Providence St. Mary Medical Center, located at 401 West Poplar Street, Walla Walla, WA 99362.

The project would bring significant improvements to cancer treatment at St. Mary's. The new image guided radiation therapy treatment system acquires 3D images of every patient, every day, allowing the clinicians to check the tumor's size, shape and adjust the treatment beam accordingly to provide more precise treatments. The project would have widespread positive impact on the area's economic status by providing ongoing treatment for patients in their local environment. Patients will have access to daily treatment close to their homes and work, allowing them to continue working throughout their radiation treatment series.

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Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Lewis,

I am requesting funding for the North Valley Hospital Equipment project in the FY10 Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$500,000.00. The entity to receive funding for this project is Okanogan County Public Hospital District #4, d/b/a/ North Valley Hospital, located at 203 S. Western Avenue, Tonasket, WA 98855.

This request will allow the Northern Valley Hospital to complete the equipment needs for the core expansion project. The funding will be used for the telephone systems, emergency room equipment, nurses call system, security systems and IT needs to establish hardware and infrastructure to support electronic medical records. This hospital is a federally recognized Critical Access Hospital that provides healthcare in a low income region serving a hospital district population of 11,000 that is primarily Medicare and Medicaid. Completion of this project will significantly improve access to local healthcare services, provide for additional jobs, and improve long term economic stability for the hospital and the community.

I hereby certify that this request will be made publicly available on my Official Website as required by Chairman Obey's new Committee policy that only posted requests will be considered. I also attest that this project does not have a direct or foreseeable effect on the financial interests of me or my spouse.

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Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Lewis,

I am requesting funding for the Improving Health Care Delivery Through Electronic Health Information project in the FY10 Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations bill. The amount requested for this project is \$3,000,000.00. The entity to receive funding for this project is Othello Community Hospital, located at 315 N. 14th Avenue, Othello, WA 99344.

The Improving Health Care Delivery Through Electronic Health Information project will allow six rural hospitals in central and southeastern Washington to upgrade their current hospital information systems, providing them with increased functionality and enhanced patient safety features and supporting greater efficiencies. Ultimately, this will support simplified, standards-based data exchange between hospitals with disparate information systems so that patient information is available where a patient is seeking care. While some hospitals will collaboratively create new jobs, this new technology will allow others to maintain current jobs and increase each hospital's financial viability.

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